

The Ploughman.

BOSTON, SATURDAY, OCT. 12, 1878.

The horror on the Old Colony Railroad, between Wollaston and Atlantic Station, on Tuesday night, sent a shudder through the city. It is one of the most shocking occurrences that has taken place near the city in years, and is paralleled only by the Revere disaster. The cause of it appears to have been the misplacement of a switch.

The extensive reorganization of the police force of the city by the Police Commissioners, is exciting much feeling among the present members. At least seventy-five or eighty new appointments and changes are likely to be made.

The Assessors now returns of the valuation of 332 cities and towns in the State have been received at the State House, and they show a total valuation of \$1,538,932,610 as against \$1,654,554,971 of last year.

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LABOR AND LIVING.

If the complaints we hear about labor mean to convey the idea that labor is to be got rid of, then we may be certain that they will prove no effect. For work is the common lot of man. We are happier when we are employed, and especially when employed upon worthy objects and ends. To produce, to win support out of the closed hand of Nature, is the condition of existence itself. It may seem hard, but it is through discipline, which we should never choose for ourselves, that we gain strength and confidence and power. This dissatisfaction with labor is no good symptom. The problem for society to solve is, how much labor should be given to each individual, and how much leisure should be given to each individual.

WORKING AND MECHANICS' CLUB.

One of the largest and most successful town exhibitions held in the State, took place at Bolton, Mass., Oct. 2nd, under the auspices of the Bolton Farmers' and Mechanics' Club. The dinner was served in the hall just completed for the purpose, 108 feet by 40, seating about 750 persons, every seat being occupied, and not in one instance was a ticket given away for the dinner. The eatables having been disposed of, speeches were made by Judge Thomas Russell, Mayor C. B. Pratt of Worcester, O. B. Hadson, ex-Master of the Horticultural Society of Worcester, ex-Mayor Blood of Fitchburg, Marcellus Hougham, Esq., of Concord, S. H. Howe of Bolton, and others, and a poem, written for the occasion by Amory Carter, a blind man of Worcester, and read by the Hon. W. Bassett of Berlin. Among the largest exhibitors in cattle and horses, were—E. F. Whitehouse, Esq., Durham; S. H. Howe, A. Cunningham, Bowditch, Barret, Jersey; Charles Townsend and others, high grades and natives. Much credit is due all the citizens of Bolton for the united interest which they took in the exhibit of all the products of the farm and garden, and their persistent effort to make this, the fifth annual exhibition, the most successful one on record for a town entirely devoted to the cause of agriculture, and to a population of a little more than four thousand inhabitants.

The town hall was devoted entirely to the hindquarters of the ladies, which was filled to completion, and to whom much credit is due for their interest shown in all departments of the exhibition.

THE GROTON FARMERS' AND MECHANICS' CLUB.

The annual Fair of the Groton Farmers' Club was held Oct. 3d. The exhibition, although not so large in some respects, as many former years, was very creditable to the town, and brought together a very large concourse of people. At the dinner in the Town Hall six hundred and twenty plates were set; every plate was taken and eaten, and a large sum was raised for the benefit of the poor.

C. F. Stevens, Brooklyn, first.

in which there were nine entries. The prizes awarded were as follows:

C. M. & S. Read, West Bridgewater, six years old, first; W. B. Ames, West Bridgewater, second; and others.

Next on the programme came the exhibition of matched horses on the track at 10 o'clock. There was but one entry, and the prize of \$100 was awarded to C. W. Brainerd.

Of family horses exhibited on the track a half hour later there were six entries; and the award was made as follows:

F. E. Stevens, Brooklyn, first.

The Times: "These—the instances of evitable valuable timber on the occupied public lands has long formed a regular industry, and has paid immense profits. The commission sent out by the Treasury Department some time ago, and the report of the Commissioner of Forestry is a full report, and it tells a story not at all agreeable to contemporaries. The men who have been in the habit of cutting heavy timber and carrying it off, seem to feel that any interference with their rights, and the laws are but very inadequate instruments for the removal of the people against them."

At the table, Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell presided. In his opening remarks, he congratulated the Club on their continued popularity and success.

Colonel Needham, who for sixteen years past has been president of the Club, was introduced as the first speaker. In alluding to the bountifully supplied tables and the well-dressed men and women at the gathering, he said, we have no evidence of hard times here. Geo. A. Marden, of the Lowell Courier, Col. Kenny of Vernon and Dr. Stearns of Groton made acceptable addresses. A large choir made up of ladies and gentlemen from Groton and Nashua poured forth volumes of melodious song, while the Groton Cornet Band furnished the music. The dinner table exercises were a leading feature of the day, and at a late hour in the afternoon the company reluctantly discontinued by the shoppers and mill owners together, and the consequence is that the two latter have had things entirely their own way.

The Stow Farmers' Club.—Hon. Daniel Neeldham delivered the address before the two-pronged engine of twenty-two cars, on the subject of "The Farmer's Duty." The address was delivered in a tent, and the accident occurred near Wollaston, just beyond Newington, but six or seven miles out of the city. The driver, Mr. D. W. Pease, was a member of an insurance association that bases from ten to twenty-five. On a single small lake there are four-tenths miles of description at work, and eleven of them have been at it for ten years. The purpose of the exhibition is to improve the methods of plowing, to increase the yield of the manure, and to facilitate the marketing of the grain.

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Much resistance is encountered in Tennessee by the government, in its efforts to collect the revenues. Regular battles with the "moonshiners" are reported every week,

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